STATE OF ARIZONA Department of Insurance and Financial Institutions FILED February 15, 2023 by AS

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STATE OF ARIZONA

DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE AND FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS

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In the Matter of:

MEEKS, DAMONIQUE AISHA NIKOLE

(National Producer No. 19957266)

Respondent

No. 22A-063-INS

DEFAULT ORDER

On January 4, 2022, the Arizona Department of Insurance and Financial Institutions (the "Department") issued a Notice of Hearing ("Notice") in the above-captioned matter, a copy of which is attached as Exhibit A and incorporated by this reference. The Notice required Damonique Aisha Nikole Meeks ("Respondent") to provide a written answer to the allegations set forth in the Notice within twenty days of the issuance of the Notice. As of this date, Respondent has failed to file an answer. On January 30, 2023, counsel for the Department filed a Motion for Default, a copy of which is attached as Exhibit B. As of this date, Respondent has not responded to the Department's motion. Pursuant to A.A.C. R20-6-106(D), a party that fails to file an answer within the time provided shall be deemed to be in default and one or more of the allegations in the Notice of Hearing may be deemed to be admitted.

FINDINGS OF FACT

- 1. Notice was proper.
- 2. Respondent is in default.
- 3. The allegations in the Notice are deemed admitted.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. The conduct alleged in the Notice constitutes grounds for the Director to suspend, revoke or refuse to renew Respondent's license to transact insurance in Arizona, pursuant to A.R.S. §20-295(A).

<u>ORDER</u>

IT IS ORDERED:

2.

- 1. The insurance license held by Respondent Damonique Aisha Nikole Meeks is revoked effective upon the issuance of this Order.
 - The hearing set for February 21, 2023 at 1:00 p.m. shall be vacated.

DATED and EFFECTIVE this 15th day of February, 2023.

Shane Foster, Acting Director Arizona Department of Insurance and Financial Institutions

1	COPY of the foregoing electronically filed this 15 th day of February, 2023 to:
2	Tammy Eigenheer, Administrative Law Judge
3	https://portal.azoah.com/submission Office of Administrative Hearings
4	
5	COPY of the foregoing emailed same date to:
6	Gio Espinsoa, Regulatory Legal Affairs Officer Deian Ousounov, Assistant Director Ana Starcevic, Paralegal Project Specialist
7	Wendy Greenwood, Investigations Supervisor Steven Fromholtz, Division Manager, Licensing
8	Arizona Department of Insurance and Financial Institutions
9	James Rolstead, Assistant Attorney General
10	AdminLaw@azag.gov Attorney for the Arizona Department of Insurance and Financial Institutions
11	COPY mailed by Regular Mail and Certified Mail,
12	Returned Receipt requested, the same date to:
13	Damonique Aisha Nikole Meeks 3734 Bryant Ave. North
14	Minneapolis, MN 55412 Respondent 9489 0090 0027 6486 6700 85
15	COPY emailed the same date to:
16	Damonique Aisha Nikole Meeks
17	meeksdamonique96@gmail.com Respondent
18	
19	
20	Ana Starcevic
21	109708
22	
23	

Exhibit A

STATE OF ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE AND FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS 2 3 In the Matter of: Docket No. 22A-063-INS 4 MEEKS, DAMONIQUE AISHA NIKOLE NOTICE OF HEARING AND 5 (National Producer No. 19957266) **COMPLAINT** 6 (ALJ Tammy Eigenheer) Respondent 7 8 **DIRECTED TO:** 9 Damonique Aisha Nikole Meeks 3734 Bryant Ave. North 10 Minneapolis, MN 55412 Respondent 11 YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that under Arizona Revised Statutes ("A.R.S.") §§ 20-12 161 and 41-1092.01, the above-captioned matter will be conducted through the Office of 13 Administrative Hearings, an independent agency. 14 15 Date of Hearing: 16 February 21, 2023 at 1:00 p.m. 17 Location: Office of Administrative Hearings 18 1740 W. Adams St. Lower Level 19 Phoenix, AZ 85007 Information regarding procedures, practice pointers, or the online filing of motions is 20 available through the Office of Administrative Hearings' website at www.azoah.com, or by 21

calling their offices at (602) 542-9826.

The Office of Administrative Hearings has designated Tammy Eigenheer at the address and phone number listed above, as the Administrative Law Judge for these proceedings.

Under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), the Office of Administrative Hearings endeavors to ensure the accessibility of its hearings to all persons with disabilities. Persons with disabilities may request reasonable accommodations such as interpreters, alternative formats, or assistance with physical accessibility. Requests for accommodations should be made as far in advance of the Hearing as possible to allow time to arrange the accommodations. If you require accommodations, please contact the Office of Administrative Hearings by calling their offices at (602) 542-9826.

Under Arizona Administrative Code ("A.A.C.") R2-19-106 and R2-19-110, motions to continue this matter shall be made in writing to the Administrative Law Judge at least fifteen (15) days before the Hearing date, unless good cause is demonstrated. A copy of any motion to continue shall be filed and served according to A.A.C. R2-19-108, with a copy provided to the Assistant Attorney General identified below.

You may appear on the date and at the time and place specified in this Notice of Hearing ("Notice") with or without the assistance of counsel. An insurance company may be represented by a corporate officer A.R.S. § 20-161(B). Additionally, you have the right to present evidence in response to the allegations in this Notice, to have a reasonable opportunity to inspect all documentary evidence, to examine witnesses, to present evidence in support of your interests, and to have subpoenas issued by the Administrative Law Judge to compel the attendance of witnesses and the production of evidence. If you fail to appear at the administrative hearing (the "Hearing"), the Administrative Law Judge can proceed with the Hearing and issue a

Recommended Decision. The Director of the Arizona Department of Insurance and Financial Institutions (the "Director") can then consider the Recommended Decision and make a final determination on this matter.

Under A.R.S. § 41-1092.07(E), a clear and accurate record of the proceedings will be made by a court reporter or by electronic means. Any party that requests a transcript of the proceedings shall pay the cost of the transcript for the court reporter or other transcriber.

Under A.A.C. R20-6-106, within twenty (20) days after service of a Notice of Hearing, the Respondent shall appear by filing a written Answer to the allegations in the Notice. The Answer shall state Respondent's position or defense and shall specifically admit or deny each assertion in the Notice. Any allegation not denied shall be deemed admitted. Any defense not raised will be considered waived. If a timely Answer is not filed, Respondent may be deemed in default and the Director may deem the allegations in the Notice as true and admitted. Accordingly, the Director may take whatever action is deemed appropriate.

Pursuant to A.R.S. § 41-1092.06, the Respondent has the right to request an informal settlement conference ("ISC") by filing a written request with the Arizona Department of Insurance and Financial Institutions (the "Department") no later than **twenty (20) days** before the scheduled hearing. The ISC will be held within **fifteen (15) days** after receiving the request. If an ISC is requested, a person with the authority to act on behalf of the Department will be present.

Please note that in requesting an ISC, Respondent waives any right to object to the participation of the Department's representative in the final administrative decision of this matter.

Any statements, either written or oral, made by the Department, Respondent, or their

representatives at an ISC, including a written document created or expressed solely for the purpose of settlement negotiations, are inadmissible in any subsequent administrative hearing. *See* A.R.S. § 41-1092.06.

Questions concerning issues raised in this Notice of Hearing should be directed to Assistant Attorney General James Rolstead, 2005 N. Central Ave., Phoenix, Arizona 85004, telephone number (602) 542-7720 or by e-mail at James.Rolstead@azag.gov.

The purpose of the Hearing is to determine whether grounds exist to revoke Respondent's insurance producer license. In support of its position that grounds exist, the Department alleges the following:

PARTIES & JURISDICTION

- 1. The Department was created and enabled to administer certain laws of the State of Arizona by protecting the public interest through licensure and regulation of the insurance producer profession in this state. A.R.S. § 20-142 and A.R.S. §§ 20-281 et seq.
- 2. Damonique Aisha Nikole Meeks ("Meeks" or "Respondent") is licensed in Arizona as a non-resident insurance producer, National Producer Number 19957266.
- 3. The Office of Administrative Hearings has subject matter and personal jurisdiction over the named parties in this Notice of Hearing, under A.R.S. § 20-161 and A.R.S. §§ 41-1092 et seq.

FACTS

4. Meeks was at all material times licensed in Arizona as a non-resident insurance producer, National Producer Number 19957266, with a line of authority in accident and health

or sickness insurance. The Department licensed Meeks on January 14, 2022 and her license is scheduled to expire on August 31, 2025. Meeks' home state is Minnesota.

- 5. Meeks' addresses of record with the Department are: 3734 Bryant Ave. North, Minneapolis, MN 55412 (business and mailing); and meeksdamonique96@gmail.com (e-mail).
- 6. On August 5, 2022, Devoted Health Plans ("Devoted") notified the Department that it had terminated its appointment of Meeks for cause, effective August 4, 2022.
- 7. Devoted stated in their Termination for Cause Notification ("Complaint") that GoHealth, a health insurance agency for Medicare plans that Meeks had been employed with, terminated Meeks for enrolling a beneficiary in a plan without their consent. The beneficiary was an Arizona consumer.
- 8. On September 2, 2022, GoHealth sent the Department a letter in response to a request from the Department for information regarding the Complaint.
- 9. GoHealth's letter stated that upon reviewing recordings and investigating the allegation against Meeks, "we were able to confidently conclude the agent [Meeks] did not compliantly enroll the customer according to GoHealth's code of conduct."
 - 10. GoHealth terminated Meeks' employment on May 26, 2022.
- 11. On August 10, 2022, the Department sent an email to Meeks informing her of Devoted's Complaint and requesting a response by August 31, 2022. Meeks did not respond to the email.
- 12. On October 17, 2022, the Department sent a letter to Meeks via certified mail, again requesting a response to the Complaint. The letter was unclaimed and returned to the Department.

- 13. On October 25, 2022, Department Investigator Wendy Greenwood ("Greenwood") attempted to contact Meeks by phone. Greenwood stated that the phone rang three times and then the line went dead.
- 14. A review of the National Association of Insurance Commissioners' state licensing report on November 2, 2022, shows that Meeks' license in her resident state of Minnesota expired on August 31, 2022 and is no longer in good standing.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

- 15. The Director has jurisdiction over this matter.
- 16. Respondent's conduct, as described above, constitutes failing to maintain a license in good standing in the person's home state, within the meaning of A.R.S. § 20-287(A)(1).
- 17. Respondent's conduct, as described above, constitutes violating any provision of Title 20 or any rule, subpoena or order of the Director, within the meaning of A.R.S. § 20-295(A)(2).
- 18. Respondent's conduct, as described above, constitutes using fraudulent, coercive or dishonest practices, or demonstrating untrustworthiness in the conduct of business in this state or elsewhere, within the meaning of A.R.S. § 20-295(A)(8).
- 19. Grounds exist for the Director to suspend, revoke, or refuse to renew Respondent's insurance license, pursuant to A.R.S. §§ 20-287(A)(1), 20-295(A)(2) and (A)(8).

THEREFORE, on the basis of the foregoing, the Department requests:

- 1. Respondent Damonique Aisha Nikole Meeks' Arizona non-resident insurance producer license, National Producer Number 19957266, be revoked under those statutes and rules cited, and any other applicable statutes or rules; and
 - 2. Any further relief that the tribunal deems appropriate.

DATED this 4th day of January, 2023.

Gio Espinosa

Gio Espinosa, Regulatory Legal Affairs Officer Arizona Department of Insurance and Financial Institutions

1	ORIGINAL of the foregoing filed electronically
	this 4 th day of January, 2023, to:
2	Tommy Figurbon, Administration I and I also
3	Tammy Eigenheer, Administrative Law Judge https://portal.azoah.com/submission
3	Office of Administrative Hearings
4	
	COPY of the foregoing delivered
5	this 4 th day of January, 2023, to:
	Cio Espinoso Deculatoro I a CC i a CCC
6	Gio Espinosa, Regulatory Legal Affairs Officer Deian Ousounov, Assistant Director
7	Ana Starcevic, Paralegal Project Specialist
,	Steven Fromholtz, Licensing Division Manager
8	Wendy Greenwood, Investigations Supervisor
Ü	Arizona Department of Insurance and Financial Institutions
9	100 North 15th Avenue, Suite 261
	Phoenix, Arizona 85007
10	
	COPY mailed this 4th day of January, 2023,
11	Regular Mail and Certified Mail, Return Receipt Requested, to:
12	(Receipt No9489 0090 0027 6486 6712 80)
12	Damonique Aisha Nikole Meeks
13	3734 Bryant Ave. North
	Minneapolis, MN 55412
14	Respondent
15	COPY sent via electronic mail
16	this 4 th day of January, 2023, to:
16	Damonique Aisha Nikole Meeks
17	Meeksdamonique96@gmail.com
• /	Respondent
18	
	James Rolstead, Assistant Attorney General
19	James.Rolstead@azag.gov
•	AdminLaw@azag.gov
20	Attorney for the Department
21	Ana Starcevic
21	10883415
22	

Exhibit B

STATE OF ARIZONA Department of Insurance and Financial Institutions FILED January 30, 2023 by AS

1	KRISTIN K. MAYES Attorney General Firm Bar No. 14000			
3	James Rolstead State Bar No. 025723 Assistant Attorney General			
4				
5	Public Law Section 2005 N. Central Ave.			
6	Phoenix, Arizona 85004			
7	Telephone: (602) 542-7720 Facsimile: (602) 542-4385			
8	E-mail: James.Rolstead@azag.gov			
	Attorney for the Arizona Department of Insurance and Financial Institutions			
9				
10	STATE OF ARIZONA			
11	DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE AND FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS			
12	In the Matter of:	No. 22A-063-INS		
13	MEEKS, DAMONIQUE AISHA	MOTION FOR DEFAULT		
14	NIKOLÉ (National Producer No. 19957266)			
15				
16	Respondent			
17	The Arizona Department of Insurance and Financial Institutions (the "Department"),			
18	by and through undersigned counsel, hereby requests that the Findings of Fact and			
19	Conclusions of Law set forth in the Notice of Hearing and incorporated herein by reference			
20	be entered in this matter, deeming Damonique Aisha Nikole Meeks ("Meeks") in default,			
21				
22	deeming the allegations set forth in the Notice as true, and ordering that Respondent's			
23	insurance license be revoked.			
24	On January 4, 2023, a Notice of Hearing and Complaint ("Notice") was filed in this			
25	matter and served upon Meeks at her mailing address of record via regular mail and certified			
26				

mail pursuant to A.R.S. § 41-1092.04. The Notice was also sent to Meeks via her e-mail address of record.

Meeks had twenty (20) days from the date of issuance of the Notice to file a written answer to the allegations contained therein pursuant to Arizona Administrative Code ("A.A.C") R20-6-106. As of the date of this Motion, Meeks has not filed an answer nor has she appeared through counsel. Rule 20-6-106(D) of the Arizona Administrative Code provides that if an answer is not timely filed, the Respondent shall be deemed in default and the Director may deem the allegations set forth in the Notice of Hearing as true and take whatever action is appropriate including revoking the license.

The allegations supporting the Notice of Hearing are as follows:

- 1. Meeks was at all material times licensed in Arizona as a non-resident insurance producer, National Producer Number 19957266, with a line of authority in accident and health or sickness insurance. The Department licensed Meeks on January 14, 2022 and her license is scheduled to expire on August 31, 2025. Meeks' home state is Minnesota.
- 2. Meeks' addresses of record with the Department are: 3734 Bryant Ave. North, Minneapolis, MN 55412 (business and mailing); and meeksdamonique96@gmail.com (e-mail).
- 3. On August 5, 2022, Devoted Health Plans ("Devoted") notified the Department that it had terminated its appointment of Meeks for cause, effective August 4, 2022.

- 4. Devoted stated in their Termination for Cause Notification ("Complaint") that GoHealth, a health insurance agency for Medicare plans that Meeks had been employed with, terminated Meeks for enrolling a beneficiary in a plan without their consent. The beneficiary was an Arizona consumer.
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- 6. GoHealth's letter stated that upon reviewing recordings and investigating the allegation against Meeks, "we were able to confidently conclude the agent [Meeks] did not compliantly enroll the customer according to GoHealth's code of conduct."
 - 7. GoHealth terminated Meeks' employment on May 26, 2022.
- 8. On August 10, 2022, the Department sent an email to Meeks informing her of Devoted's Complaint and requesting a response by August 31, 2022. Meeks did not respond to the email.
- 9. On October 17, 2022, the Department sent a letter to Meeks via certified mail, again requesting a response to the Complaint. The letter was unclaimed and returned to the Department.
- 10. On October 25, 2022, Department Investigator Wendy Greenwood ("Greenwood") attempted to contact Meeks by phone. Greenwood stated that the phone rang three times and then the line went dead.
- 11. A review of the National Association of Insurance Commissioners' state licensing report on November 2, 2022, shows that Meeks' license in her resident state of Minnesota expired on August 31, 2022 and is no longer in good standing.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

- 12. The Director has jurisdiction over this matter.
- 13. Respondent's conduct, as described above, constitutes failing to maintain a license in good standing in the person's home state, within the meaning of A.R.S. § 20-287(A)(1).
- 14. Respondent's conduct, as described above, constitutes violating any provision of Title 20 or any rule, subpoena or order of the Director, within the meaning of A.R.S. § 20-295(A)(2).
- 15. Respondent's conduct, as described above, constitutes using fraudulent, coercive or dishonest practices, or demonstrating untrustworthiness in the conduct of business in this state or elsewhere, within the meaning of A.R.S. § 20-295(A)(8).
- 16. Grounds exist for the Director to suspend, revoke, or refuse to renew Respondent's insurance license, pursuant to A.R.S. §§ 20-287(A)(1), 20-295(A)(2) and (A)(8).

Based upon the foregoing, the Department respectfully requests that the allegations set forth in the January 4, 2023 Notice of Hearing and Complaint be deemed admitted and that Respondent's insurance license be revoked.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED this 30th day of January, 2023.

KRISTIN K. MAYES, Attorney General

By /s/ James Rolstead

James Rolstead, Assistant Attorney General Attorney for the Arizona Department of Insurance and Financial Institutions

1	COPY of the foregoing electronically filed this		
2	30th day of January, 2023 with:		
3	Gio Espinosa, Regulatory Legal Affairs Officer		
4	Deian Ousounov, Assistant Director Ana Starcevic, Paralegal Project Specialist		
5	Steven Fromholtz, Division Manager, Licensing Arizona Department of Insurance and Financial Institutions		
6			
7	COPY mailed and emailed same date to:		
8	Damonique Aisha Nikole Meeks 3734 Bryant Ave. North		
9	Minneapolis, MN 55412		
10	Email: Meeksdamonique96@gmail.com Respondent		
11			
12	/s/ S. Hack 10976599		
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